REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 8, 9, 11, 13, 16, 17, 19, 23, 25 and 28 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 6, 7, 10, 14, 15, 21, 22, 26 and 27 are canceled. Reconsideration based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant appreciates the Office Action's indication that claims 1, 4, 8, 9, 11, 13, 16, 17, 19, 23, 25 and 28 are allowed.

I. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,549,234 to Lee in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,130,423 to Brehmer et al., ("Brehmer"); claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee in view of Brehmer and U.S. Patent No. 6,326,230 to Pain et al., ("Pain"); claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee in view of Brehmer and U.S. Patent No. 6,452,632 to Umeda et al., ("Umeda"); claims 14, 21 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Lee in view of Brehmer and U.S. Patent No. 5,128,769 to Arai et al., ("Arai"); and claims 15, 22 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee in view of Brehmere, Pain and Arai. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 6, 7, 10, 14, 15, 21, 22, 26 and 27 are canceled in this Amendment, and thus the rejection is now moot. Withdraw of this rejection is respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully asserts that this application is now in condition for allowance.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 7, 2005

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